at least three grooves being positioned to coincide with a portion of the sitting portion contacted by an individual seated on the seat apparatus;

a cover member encircling the filling member;

an air vent provided in the filling member and extending from adjacent the nonsitting side of the sitting portion towards the sitting side of the sitting portion, one end of
said air vent opening toward the sitting side and communicating with said at least three
grooves; and

a temperature controlled air producing device for producing temperature controlled air and directing the temperature controlled air into an opposite end of the air vent, with the temperature controlled air being directed through the air vent and into said at least three separate grooves to provide temperature controlled air to a seated individual in contact with the sitting side of the sitting portion.

21. A seat apparatus for directing temperature controlled air to an individual seated on the seat apparatus, comprising:

a seat cushion that includes a filling member, said seat cushion possessing a sitting side adapted to face towards an individual seated on the seat cushion and a non-sitting side;

a seat back that includes a filling member, the seat back possessing a sitting side adapted to face towards an individual seated on the seat back and a non-sitting side;

at least two spaced apart grooves each extending over a limited surface area of the filling member of at least one of the seat cushion and the seat back, each of said at least





two spaced apart grooves opening in a direction towards the sitting side of said at least one of the seat cushion and the seat back, each of the at least two grooves being positioned to coincide with a portion of the seat apparatus contacted by an individual seated on the seat apparatus;

a cover member encircling the filling member of at least one of the seat cushion and the seat back;

an air vent having one end communicated with said at least two spaced apart grooves such that said at least two grooves branch from said one end of the air vent;

a fan communicating with an opposite end of the air vent to direct air towards the
air vent such that the air is fed into the air vent and is directed by way of said at least two
spaced apart grooves to selected portions of an individual in contact with the sitting side of
said at least one of the seat cushion and the seat back; and

an air temperature controlling device positioned between the fan and the air vent to control a temperature of the air directed to the air vent and into said at least two spaced apart grooves to provide temperature controlled air to the selected portions of an individual in contact with the sitting side of said at least one of the seat cushion and the seat back.

22. The seat apparatus according to Claim 21, wherein the at least two spaced apart grooves includes at least three spaced apart grooves each extending over a limited surface area of the filling member of said seat cushion, said air vent being a single air vent



constituting the only air vent in the filling member of the seat cushion so that all air from the fan is fed into the single air vent and is directed into each of said at least three grooves.



- 23. The seat apparatus according to Claim 21, wherein said at least two grooves are provided in the filling member of the seat cushion, and including at least one groove extending over a limited surface area of the filling member of the seat back.
- 26. A seat apparatus for directing temperature controlled air to an individual seated on the seat apparatus, comprising:

a seat cushion possessing a sitting side adapted to face towards a seated individual and a non-sitting side:



a seat back possessing a sitting side adapted to face towards a seated individual and a non-sitting side:

at least one of the seat cushion and the seat back including a filling member;

at least two spaced apart grooves each extending over a limited surface area of the filling member and opening in a direction towards the sitting side of the at least one of the seat cushion and the seat back, each of said at least two spaced apart grooves extending to selected portions of the filling member, each of the at least two grooves being positioned to coincide with a portion of the seat apparatus contacted by an individual seated on the seat apparatus;

a cover member encircling the filling member:

an air vent having one end communicated with the at least two spaced apart grooves such said at least two spaced apart grooves branch from said one end of the air vent;

a peltier element communicating with an opposite end of the air vent to control a temperature of air fed to the air vent and directed by way of said at least two grooves to said selected portions of the filling member to provide temperature controlled air to an individual seated on said at least one of the seat cushion and the seat back.



27. The seat apparatus according to Claim 26, wherein the air vent in the filling member is a single air vent constituting the only air vent in the filling member, each of the at least two grooves communicating with the single air vent.



34. The seat apparatus according to Claim 26, wherein each of the at least two grooves includes side walls and a bottom wall.



- 36. The seat apparatus according to Claim 21, wherein said at least two grooves are located in areas to which high pressures are applied by an individual seated on the sitting portion.
- 37. The seat apparatus according to Claim 26, wherein said at least two grooves are located in areas to which high pressures are applied by an individual seated on the sitting portion.

Application No. 09/801,799 Attorney's Docket No. 000400-786 Page 6

Kindly add the following new Claim 38

38. A seat apparatus for directing temperature controlled air to an individual seated on the seat apparatus, comprising:

a seat cushion that includes a filling member, said seat cushion possessing a sitting side adapted to face towards an individual seated on the seat cushion and a non-sitting side;

a seat back that includes a filling member, the seat back possessing a sitting side adapted to face towards an individual seated on the seat back and a non-sitting side;

at least two spaced apart grooves each extending over a limited surface area of the filling member of at least one of the seat cushion and the seat back, each of said at least two spaced apart grooves opening in a direction towards the sitting side of said at least one of the seat cushion and the seat back;

a cover member encircling the filling member of at least one of the seat cushion and the seat back:

an air vent having one end communicated with said at least two spaced apart
grooves such that said at least two grooves branch from said one end of the air vent, said
air vent being a single air vent constituting the only air vent in the filling member of the
seat cushion so that all air from the fan is fed into the single air vent and is directed at least
into each of the at least two grooves;

a fan communicating with an opposite end of the air vent to direct air towards the air vent such that the air is fed into the air vent and is directed by way of said at least two



Application No. <u>09/801,799</u> Attorney's Docket No. <u>000400-786</u> Page 7

grooves to selected portions of an individual in contact with the sitting side of said at least one of the seat cushion and the seat back; and

an air temperature controlling device positioned between the fan and the air vent to

control a temperature of the air directed to the air vent and into said at least two spaced

apart grooves to provide temperature controlled air to the selected portions of an individual

in contact with the sitting side of said at least one of the seat cushion and the seat back.